

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1, 3-5 and 7-18 have been amended and claims 19-20 have been added as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A map information display control device, comprising:

a map information acquirer which acquires map information;

an information acquirer which acquires map component information forming the map information with at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature;

a time information acquirer which acquires time information relating to a time when the map component information is acquired;

a timer which counts an elapsed time up to a current time based on the time information; and

a display controller which controls a display unit to display the map information and to superpose the map component information relating to the elapsed time having exceeded a predetermined time period on the map information in a display pattern ~~different from~~ with higher transparency than the map component information relating to the elapsed time not having exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 2 (original): The map information display control device according to claim 1, wherein the display controller changes the display pattern of the map component information relating to the elapsed time having exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The map information display control device according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the time information acquirer associates the time information with the map component information to generate a single piece of information.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The map information display control device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the time information acquirer acquires the current time counted by the timer at a time when the information acquirer acquires the map component information as the time information.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A map information display control device, comprising:

- a map information acquirer which acquires map information;
- an information acquirer which acquires: map component information forming the map information with at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature; and information containing time information relating to a time when the map component information is generated;
- a timer which counts an elapsed time up to a current time based on the time information; and
- a display controller which controls a display unit to display the map information and to superpose the map component information of the information relating to the elapsed time having exceeded a predetermined time period on the map information in a display pattern ~~different from~~

with higher transparency than the map component information of the information relating to the elapsed time not having exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 6 (original): The map information display control device according to claim 5, wherein the display controller changes the display pattern of the map component information of the information relating to the elapsed time having exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The map information display control device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, further comprising:

a map information storage which stores the map information; and

an information storage which can store plural pieces of information, in each piece the map component information and the time information being associated.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The map information display control device according to claim ~~[[7]] 5~~, wherein the information storage stores the plural pieces of information by associating unique identification information with each type of the map component information further comprising:

a map information storage which stores the map information; and

an information storage which can store plural pieces of information, in each piece the map component information and the time information being associated.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The map information display control device according to claim ~~7~~ ~~[[or 8]]~~, wherein ~~[[when]]~~ the information acquirer acquires the map component information same as one of the stored plural pieces of information, the information storage conducts an updating by replacing the one of the stored plural pieces of information with one piece of information associated with the time information corresponding to the same map component information storage stores the

plural pieces of information by associating unique identification information with each type of the map component information.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The map information display control device according to claim [[9]] 8, wherein ~~when recognizing the updating, the display controller displays the map component information relating to the replaced information in a different pattern from the other map component information~~ information storage stores the plural pieces of information by associating unique identification information with each type of the map component information.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The map information display control device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 7, wherein when ~~the display controller displays such that a difference in the display pattern becomes large as the elapsed time becomes long~~ information acquirer acquires the map component information same as one of the stored plural pieces of information, the information storage conducts an updating by replacing the one of the stored plural pieces of information with one piece of information associated with the time information corresponding to the same map component information.

Claim 12 (currently amended): [[A]] The map information display control system, comprising:-

~~the map information display control device according to any one of claims 1 to 11; and~~
~~a terminal unit which is connected to the map information display control device via a network in a data transmittable manner, the terminal unit including the display unit which displays the map information~~ device according to claim 8, wherein when the information acquirer acquires the map component information same as one of the stored plural pieces of information, the

information storage conducts an updating by replacing the one of the stored plural pieces of information with one piece of information associated with the time information corresponding to the same map component information.

Claim 13 (currently amended): [[A]] The map information display control system, comprising:

~~a server including: a storage storing map information; and a distributing unit distributing map component information forming the map information with at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature; and time information relating to a time when the map component information is generated or distributed by an information distributor;~~

~~the map information display control device according to any one of claims 1 to 11, which is connected to the server via a network in a data transmittable manner and controls the display unit to display the map information and the map component information~~ device according to claim 11, wherein when recognizing the updating, the display controller displays the map component information relating to the replaced information in a different pattern from the other map component information.

Claim 14 (currently amended): [[A]] The map information display control method in which ~~a computing unit controls a display unit to display map information, wherein the computing unit acquires: map component information forming the map information with at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature; and time information relating to a time when the map component information is acquired; and controls, on~~

~~recognizing that the acquired time information has exceeded the predetermined time period, the display unit to display the map information corresponding to the time information in a display pattern different from the map component information corresponding to the time information not having exceeded the predetermined time period~~ device according to claim 12, wherein when recognizing the updating, the display controller displays the map component information relating to the replaced information in a different pattern from the other map component information.

Claim 15 (currently amended): [[A]] The map information display control method in which ~~a computing unit controls a display unit to display map information, wherein the computing unit acquires map component information forming the map information with at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature, and time information relating to a time when the map component information is generated, and controls, on recognizing that the time information of the acquired information has exceeded the predetermined time period, the display unit to display the map component information of the acquired information in a display pattern different from the map component information of the information including the time information not having exceeded the predetermined time period~~ device according to claim 1, wherein the display controller displays such that a difference in transparency becomes large as the elapsed time becomes long.

Claim 16 (currently amended): [[A]] The map information display control program ~~controlling a computing unit to work as the map information display control device according to any one of claims 1 to 11, the program alternatively controlling the computing unit as the map information display control system according to claim 12 or 13~~ device according to claim 5, wherein

the display controller displays such that a difference in transparency becomes large as the elapsed time becomes long.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A map information display control ~~program controlling a computing unit to execute the map information display control method according to claim 14 or 15~~ system comprising:

a map information display control device; and

a terminal unit which is connected to the map information display control device via a network in a data transmittable manner, the terminal unit including the display unit which displays the map information, wherein

the map information display control device includes: a map information acquirer which acquires map information; an information acquirer which acquires map component information forming the map information with at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature; a time information acquirer which acquires time information relating to a time when the map component information is acquired; a timer which counts an elapsed time up to a current time based on the time information; and a display controller which controls a display unit to display the map information and to superpose the map component information relating to the elapsed time having exceeded a predetermined time period on the map information in a display pattern with higher transparency than the map component information relating to the elapsed time not having exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A ~~recording medium storing a map information display control program, in which the map information display control program according to claim 16 or 17~~

~~is stored in a manner readable by the computing unit~~ map information display control system,
comprising:

a server including a storage storing map information, and a distributing unit distributing: map
component information forming the map information with at least one of traffic information relating
to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature; and time information relating to a time
when the map component information is generated or distributed by an information distributor; and

a map information display control device which is connected to the server via a network in
a data transmittable manner and controls the display unit to display the map information and the map
component information, wherein

the map information display control device includes: a map information acquirer which
acquires map information; an information acquirer which acquires map component information
forming the map information with at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or
feature information relating to a feature; a time information acquirer which acquires time information
relating to a time when the map component information is acquired; a timer which counts an elapsed
time up to a current time based on the time information; and a display controller which controls a
display unit to display the map information and to superpose the map component information
relating to the elapsed time having exceeded a predetermined time period on the map information
in a display pattern with higher transparency than the map component information relating to the
elapsed time not having exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 19 (new): A map information display control method in which a computing unit controls a display unit to display map information, wherein the computing unit acquires: map

component information forming the map information with at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature; and time information relating to a time when the map component information is acquired; and controls, on recognizing that the acquired time information has exceeded the predetermined time period, the display unit to superpose the map information corresponding to the time information on the map information in a display pattern with higher transparency than the map component information corresponding to the time information not having exceeded the predetermined time period.

Claim 20 (new): A map information display control method in which a computing unit controls a display unit to display map information, wherein the computing unit acquires: map component information forming the map information with at least one of traffic information relating to a traffic status or feature information relating to a feature; and time information relating to a time when the map component information is generated; and controls, on recognizing that the time information of the acquired information has exceeded the predetermined time period, the display unit to superpose the map component information of the acquired information on the map information in a display pattern with higher transparency than the map component information of the information including the time information not having exceeded the predetermined time period.